

Leicester, Nov. 27, 1844.

My dear Mrs. Chapman,

In a note, received by the last Steamship, from J. B. Estlin, Esq. an eminent Physician & Surgeon of Bristol (Dr. Estlin, as we should say), are some papers which I am sure will interest you, and I accordingly send you an extract or two: -

"In a box of wonderful contents (which have been exhibited at my house previously to their transmission to Boston). I have put 12 little papers, each containing a portion, (6 of them a lock,) of the hair of the late Ram Mohun Roy.

"I am however utterly ignorant as to the probability of their being so valued by any persons in America as to be saleable. Here they would be much prized. Should the Managers of the Fair consider them not likely to excite any interest, my daughter has requested Mrs. Chapman, to whom she is writing, to let you have them. I take this liberty, under the belief that you would not refuse me the kindness of taking charge of them, so as to return them to me by some convenient opportunity; begging you however to retain any

that you, or your friends, would like to keep.

"That this hair actually was that of the great Hindoo Reformer, you need feel no doubt. I attended him thro' his lamented and fatal illness, cut off some of his hair which has never been out of my possession excepting while in the hands of the lady who kindly tied it up into little parcels.

"The credit of getting up the offering from this place to the Anti-Slavery Fair is due to Mr. James^{*}; he found however such ready agents in this good work, that had the matter been more generally known, the number of articles sent would have been greatly increased. We daily hear of regrets that the contribution to your cause was not known sooner.

"We shall be much interested, and you may be much benefited on another occasion, by our knowing how the articles we send, sell, — and what are the most valuable. Any accounts of the Fair that may be published after, will be very acceptable, and we can disperse them so as to produce considerable interest when there is to be another Fair — "Bazaar" we should call it."

* Junior Minister of Lewin's Mead Chapel.

I have made you extracts of such length as will convince you that this gentleman feels a deep interest in the Anti-Slavery cause, and in your Fair — and you may be assured he is one whose sympathy & kind interest are well worth having. I know he is very highly respected in Bristol & wherever known. A year since, he presided at the Annual Meeting in London of the Br. & For. Unitⁿ. Assocⁿ — which I merely name to show that he is regarded as among the leading Unitarian gentlemen of the country.

I do not anticipate having anything to do, in the way of returning to Mr. E. his offering. I am confident you & others will regard it as a valuable one, in every sense.

I hope to send you a few paragraphs for the Liberty Bell this week,

Yours, with respect,

Samuel May

Mrs. M. W. Chapman

Summer St.

Boston.

Nov 27. 1844
A. May